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Peter Rabbit

a Little Golden Book

Little Golden Books
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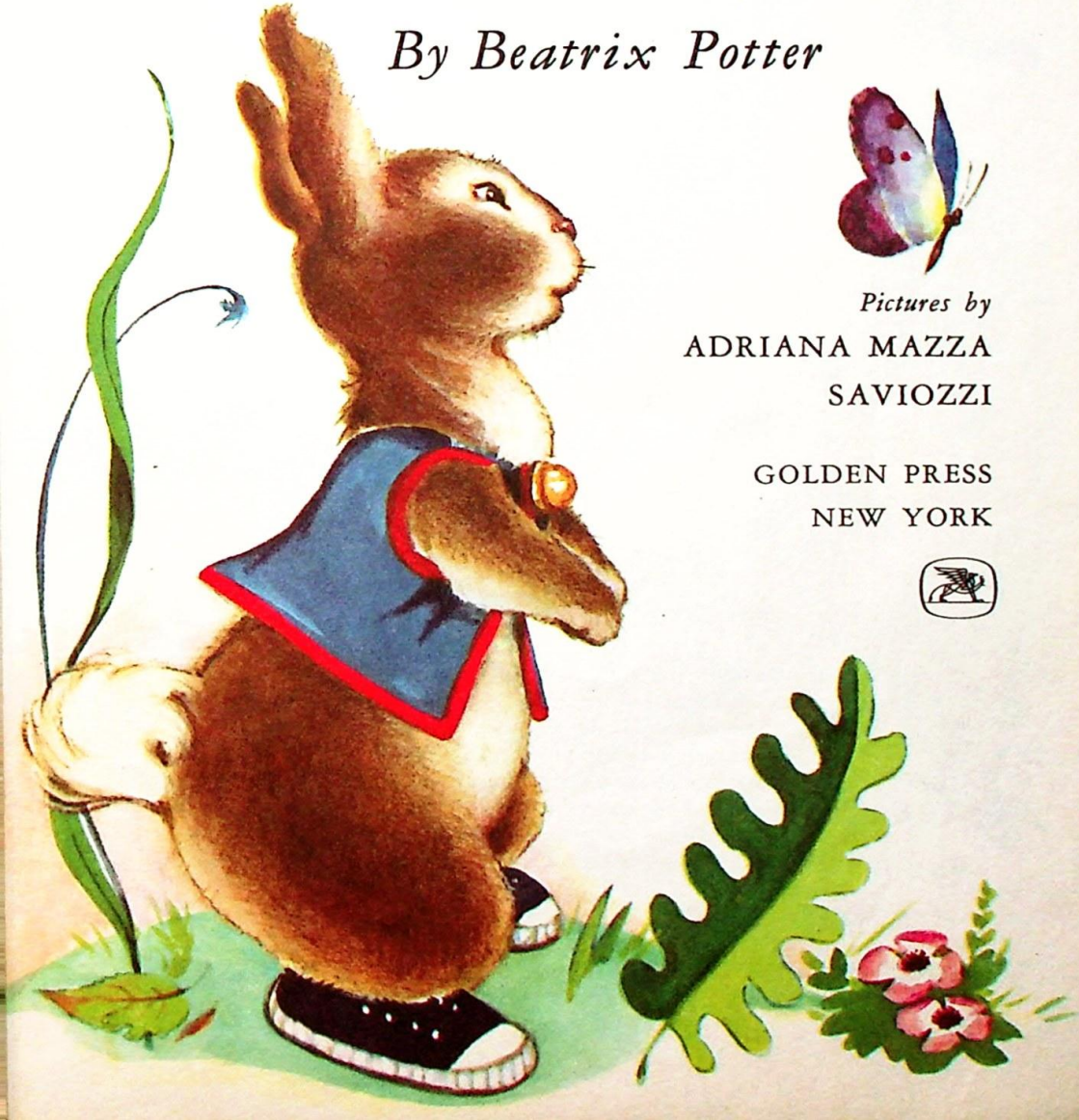
This
Little Golden Book
belongs to
Marty Bruyn
From Grampa Thomas
Little Golden Books
Little Golden Books
Little Golden Books

THE TALE OF Peter Rabbit

By Beatrix Potter



Pictures by
ADRIANA MAZZA SAVIOZZI

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THIS IS A BRAND-NEW BOOK, ILLUSTRATED ESPECIALLY FOR GOLDEN BOOKS
THIS LITTLE GOLDEN BOOK
WAS PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
MARY REED, PH.D.

Beatrix Potter first wrote the story of Peter Rabbit in a letter to a little boy called Noel Moore. She illustrated each incident with her own beautifully detailed sketches. Hundreds of children, from one generation to another, have been delighted with "Peter Rabbit" since it appeared in book form, for Beatrix Potter created a miniature world which they could readily enter. The publishers are proud to present this Little Golden Book, freshly illustrated by the Italian artist, Adriana Mazza Saviozzi.

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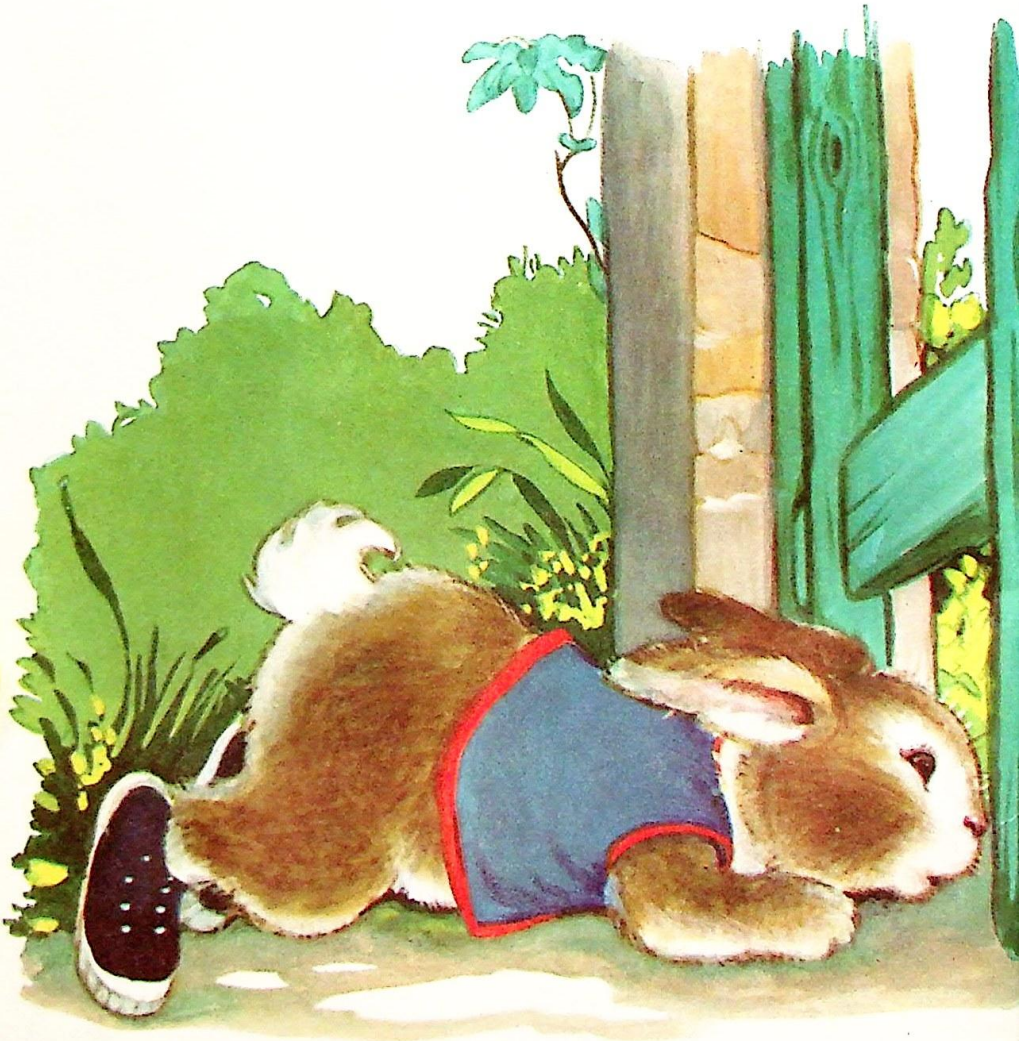
Once upon a time there were four little Rabbits, and their names were—Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail, and Peter. They lived with their Mother in a sand-bank, underneath the root of a very big fir tree.

"Now, my dears," said old Mrs. Rabbit one morning, "you may go into the fields or down the lane, but don't go into Mr. McGregor's garden. Your father had an accident there—he was put in a pie by Mrs. McGregor. Now run along and don't get into mischief. I am going out."

Then old Mrs. Rabbit took a basket and her umbrella, and went through the wood to the baker's. She bought a loaf of brown bread and five currant buns.



Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail, who were good little bunnies, went down the lane to gather blackberries. But Peter, who was very naughty, ran straight away to Mr. McGregor's garden and squeezed under the gate!

First he ate some lettuces and some French beans, and then he ate some radishes. And then, feeling rather sick, he went to look for some parsley.

But round the end of a cucumber frame, whom should he meet but Mr. McGregor! Mr. McGregor was on his hands and knees planting out young cabbages, but he jumped up and ran after Peter, waving a rake and calling out, "Stop, thief!"

Peter was most dreadfully frightened. He rushed all over the garden, for he had forgotten the way back to the gate.

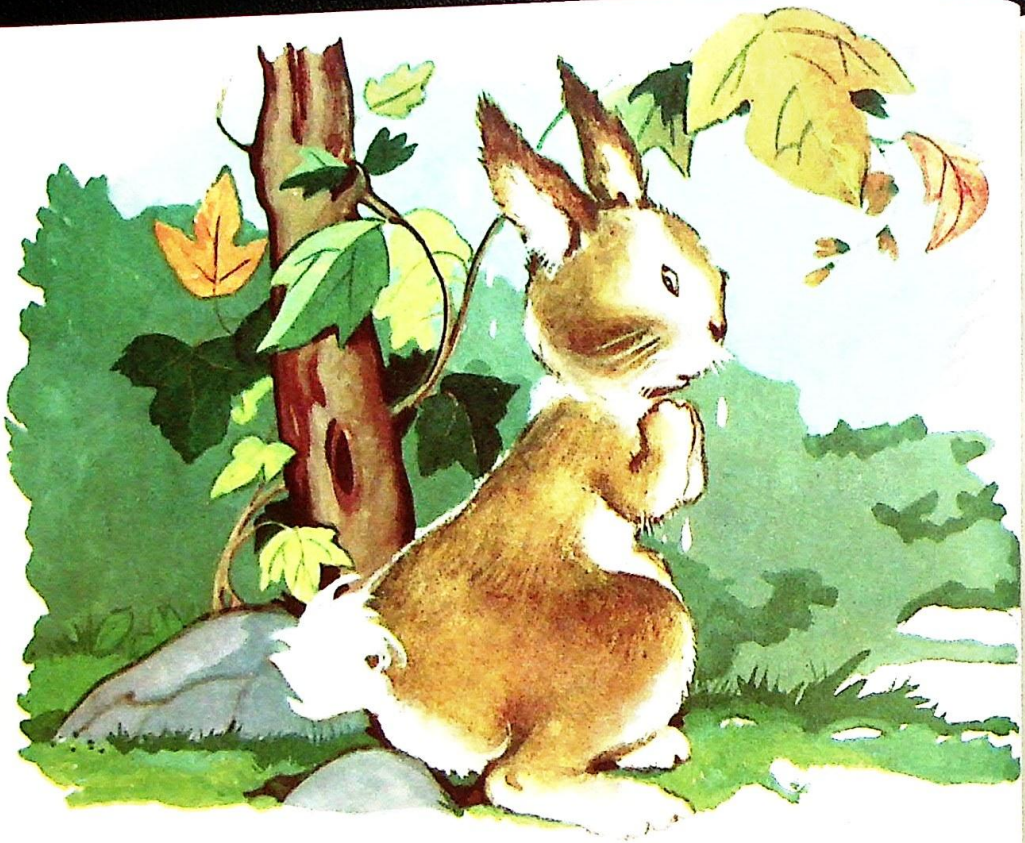
He lost one of his shoes among the cabbages, and the other shoe amongst the potatoes. After losing them he ran on four legs and went faster, so that he might have got away altogether if . . . he had not unfortunately run into a gooseberry net, and got caught by the large buttons on his jacket. It was a blue jacket with brass buttons, quite new.

Peter gave himself up for lost, and shed big tears. But his sobs were overheard by some friendly sparrows, who flew to him in great excitement, and implored him to exert himself.

Mr. McGregor came up with a sieve, which he intended to pop upon the top of Peter. But Peter wriggled out just in time, leaving his jacket behind, and rushed into the tool shed, and jumped into a can. It would have been a beautiful thing to hide in, if it had not had so much water in it.

Mr. McGregor was quite sure that Peter was somewhere in the tool shed, perhaps hidden underneath a flowerpot. He began to turn them over carefully, looking under each.

Presently Peter sneezed — "Kertyshoo!" Mr. McGregor was after him in no time, and tried to put his foot upon Peter, who jumped out of a window, upsetting three plants. The window was too small for Mr. McGregor, and he was tired of running after Peter. He went back to his work.

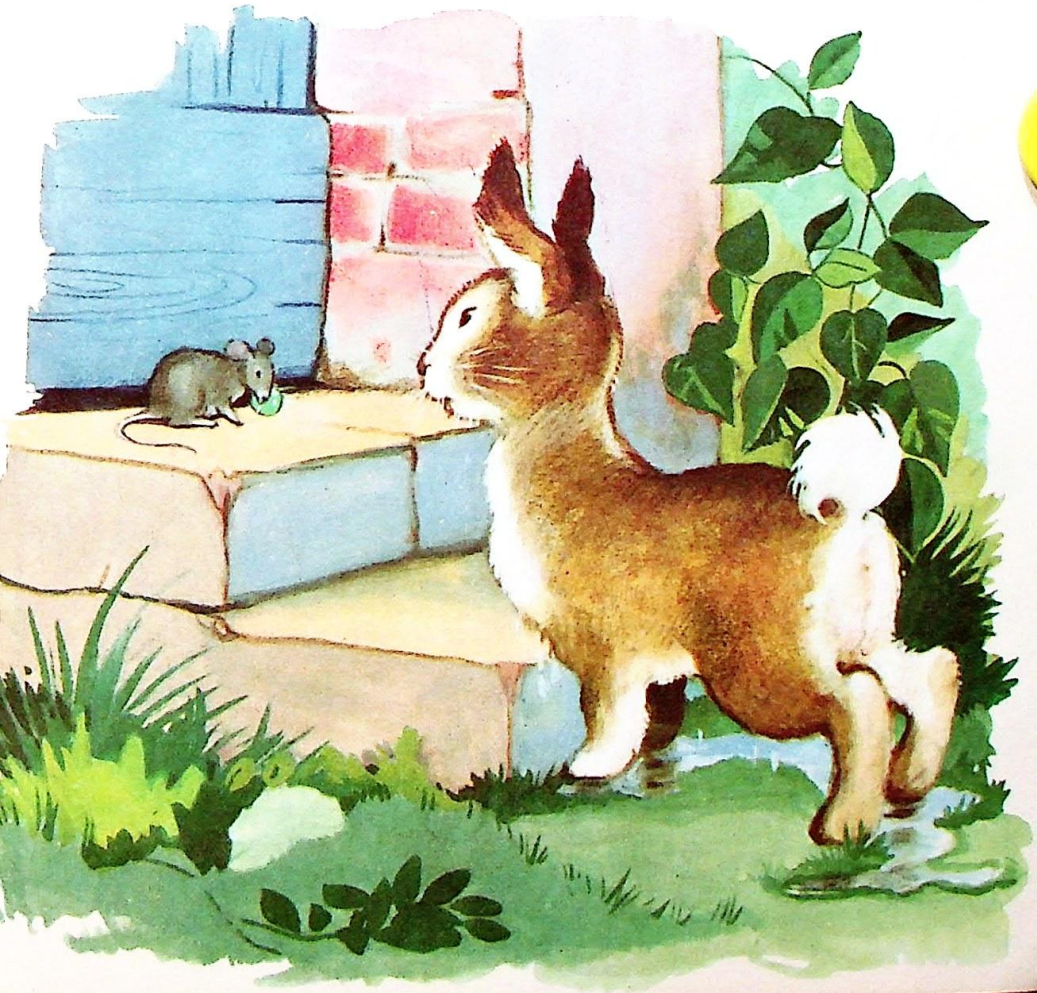


Peter sat down to rest. He was out of breath and trembling with fright, and he had not the least idea which way to go. Also he was very damp with sitting in that can.

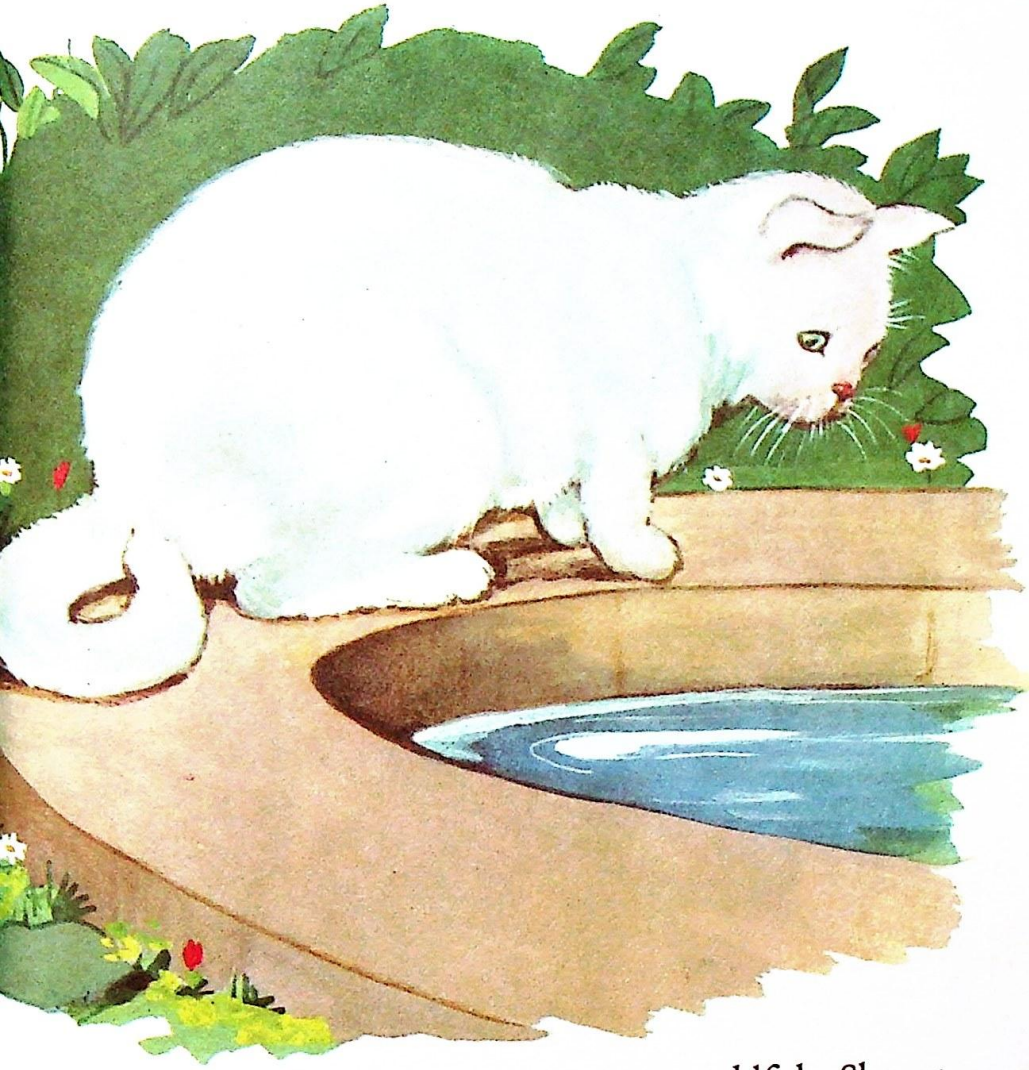
After a time he began to wander about, going lippity-lippity—not very fast, and looking all around.

He found a door in a wall, but it was locked, and there was no room for a fat little rabbit to squeeze underneath.

An old mouse was running in and out over the stone doorstep, carrying peas and beans to her family in the wood. Peter asked her the way to the gate, but she had such a large pea in her mouth that she could not answer. She only shook her head at him. Peter began to cry.



Then he tried to find his way straight across the garden, but he became more and more puzzled. Presently, he came to a pond where Mr. McGregor filled his water cans.



A white cat was staring at some goldfish. She sat very, very still, but now and then the tip of her tail twitched as if it were alive. Peter thought it best to go away without speaking to her. He had heard about cats from his cousin, little Benjamin Bunny.

He went back towards the tool shed, but suddenly quite close to him, he heard the noise of a hoe—scr-r-ritch, scratch, scratch, scritch. Peter scuttered underneath the bushes.

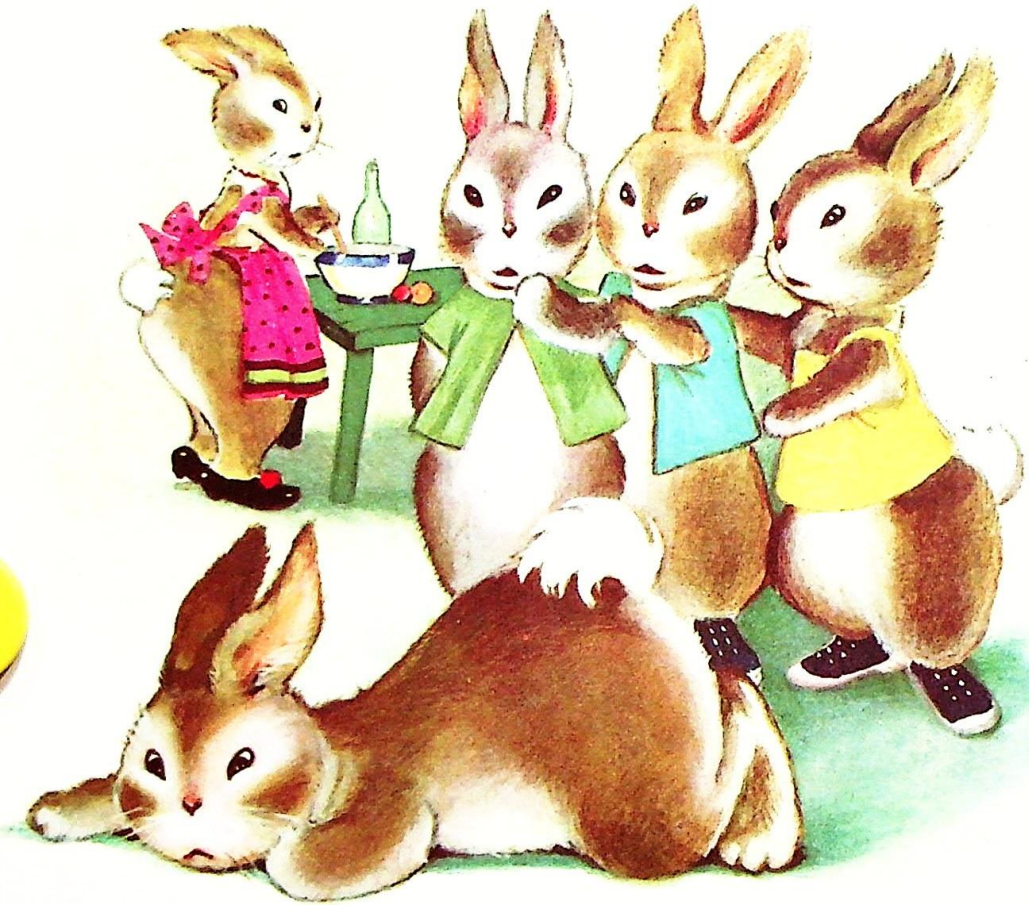
But presently, as nothing happened, he came out, and climbed upon a wheelbarrow, and peeped over. The first thing he saw was Mr. McGregor hoeing onions. His back was turned towards Peter, and beyond him was the gate!

Peter got down very quietly off the wheelbarrow, and started running as fast as he could go, along a straight walk behind some black currant bushes.

Mr. McGregor caught sight of him at the corner, but Peter did not care. He slipped underneath the gate and was safe at last in the wood outside the garden.

Mr. McGregor hung up the little jacket and the shoes for a scarecrow to frighten the blackbirds.

Peter never stopped running or looked behind him till he got home to the big fir tree.



He was so tired that he flopped down upon the nice soft sand on the floor of the rabbit-hold, and shut his eyes. His mother was busy cooking. She wondered what he had done with his clothes. It was the second little jacket and pair of shoes that Peter had lost in a fortnight!

I am sorry to say that Peter was not very well during the evening.

His mother put him to bed, and made some camomile tea. And she gave a dose of it to Peter!

"One tablespoonful to be taken at bedtime."

But Flopsy, Mopsy, and Cotton-tail had bread and milk and blackberries for supper.

How many of these LITTLE GOLDEN BOOKS have you read?

42. Little Red Riding Hood
45. Words
47. The Three Bears
101. Little Golden ABC
216. Rin Tin Tin
282. Animals of Farmer Jones
285. How to Tell Time
301. Five Little Firemen
309. Three Bedtime Stories
317. More Mother Goose
319. Little Red Caboose
337. Numbers
342. Exploring Space
348. Nursery Songs
358. Baby's First Book
359. Puss in Boots
361. Counting Rhymes
363. Scuffy the Tugboat
366. Cars and Trucks
369. Picture Dictionary
376. Huckleberry Hound
381. Three Little Kittens
382. Fire Engines
384. Happy Birthday
385. Saggy Baggy Elephant
386. Dennis the Menace
392. Hymns
395. Yogi Bear
399. Doctor Dan at the Circus
400. Old MacDonald's Farm
404. Baby Looks
406. Huckleberry Hound and Friends
407. A Day on the Farm
408. Rocky and his Friends
413. Chicken Little
415. Lassie Shows the Way
420. Jack and the Beanstalk
422. Baby's Mother Goose
424. Jokes
426. Country Mouse and the City Mouse
430. Bugs Bunny and the Indians▲
434. Counting Book
436. Color Kittens
437. Gingerbread Man
442. Cindy Bear
444. Hokey Wolf
445. Woody Woodpecker
446. Bozo the Clown
449. Yakky Doodle
450. The Flintstones
453. Top Cat
459. Horses
460. Manners
463. Wait-for-Me Kitten
464. Baby Farm Animals
467. Where is the Poky Little Puppy?
468. We Help Daddy
470. Heidi
472. Mother Goose
473. Nurse Nancy
475. Bugs Bunny▲
477. Ruff and Reddy
481. Smokey the Bear
483. Mister Ed
485. Bozo Finds a Friend
487. Golden Goose
488. Gay Purr-ee
491. Hansel and Gretel
492. Supercar
494. Shy Little Kitten
500. The Jetsons
506. Poky Little Puppy
512. Chipmunk's ABC
518. Lassie's Day in the Sun
525. My Word Book
529. Nursery Rhymes
531. Pebbles Flintstone
538. Bedtime Stories
A11. Cowboy Stamps♦
A19. Farm Stamps♦
A25. Insect Stamps♦
A31. Mike and Melissa♦
A32. Ginger Doll♦
A33. Sleeping Beauty Paper Dolls♦
A34. Red Riding Hood Paper Dolls♦
A36. Cinderella Dolls♦
D3. Dumbo*
D59. Cinderella*
D63. Scamp*
D66. Snow White*
D76. Mickey Mouse*
D78. Three Little Pigs*
D87. Toby Tyler*
D88. Scamp's Adventure*
D89. The Lucky Puppy*
D90. Bambi*
D91. Pollyanna*
D98. Ludwig Von Drake*
D100. Pinocchio*
D101. Pinocchio and the Whale*
D102. Big Red*
D103. Lady*
D108. Mickey Mouse and his Space Ship*
D109. Donald Duck in Disneyland*

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MORE THAN one billion Golden Books have gone into the homes of children of all nations. They are far and away the best-known series of books for young people ever published.

The subjects of Golden Books are chosen to entertain and delight children. Many of them are about the young child's own environment, giving him a feeling of belonging. Others begin to acquaint the child with the lives of people around him and extend his awareness of the world.

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The Golden Books include versions of modern children's classics told for young listeners and, of course, a good share of the beloved fairy and folk tales.

So look closely at the Golden Books you choose for they have many imitators. You will find a listing of some of the books in the Little Golden Library on the reverse of this cover.

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